**Note: Please leave this on the ambo, thanks.**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR B**

Good morning/evening we welcome our parishioners and visitors to Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill/Schofields Parish.

Like the apostle Thomas, we want to see clear signs of Jesus’ victory over death and corruption. May the Lord open our eyes to the power of his Resurrection and transform our doubts and fears into confident faith and boundless joy.

This Octave Day of Easter is also Divine Mercy Sunday. Promoted by St. Faustina Kowalska, whom Pope John Paul II canonized on 30 April 2000, the devotion to the Divine Mercy is a perennial invitation for us to face, with confidence in divine goodness, the difficulties and trials of both the present and the future.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**Second Sunday of Easter - (Divine Mercy Sunday) - Year B**

**MASS READINGS**

**FIRST READING (Acts 4:32-35)**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1)**

***(R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.***

**1.** Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:

‘His love has no end.’  **(R.)**

**2.** The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;

his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live

and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,

but not doomed to die. **(R.)**

**3.** The stone which the builders rejected

has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,

a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;

we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING  (1 Jn 5:1-6)**

*A reading from the first letter of St John*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ

has been begotten by God;

and whoever loves the Father that begot him

loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God’s children

if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;

this is what loving God is –

keeping his commandments;

and his commandments are not difficult,

because anyone who has been begotten by God

has already overcome the world;

this is the victory over the world –

our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,

not with water only,

but with water and blood;

with the Spirit as another witness –

since the Spirit is the truth.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL (Jn 20:19-31)**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.’

‘As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him:

‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR B**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Let us turn to the Father through our Lord Jesus who plunges into the infinite ocean of his mercy that is greater than sin, evil, suffering, and death. In his loving mercy we have victory, salvation, and eternal life.

**Reader:** — For the leaders of the Church: that, believing in and experiencing the Lord’s infinite mercy, they may always proclaim it to God’s people.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our local and national leaders: that, like the apostles, they may attend to the needs of our communities and work for peace, unity, and progress.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who, like Thomas, live in doubt and fear: that peace and forgiveness of the risen Christ may strengthen them to face life’s challenges and difficulties.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all consecrated men and women: that they may preserve the faith by which they had vowed to serve the Lord.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all of us gathered here: that we may be immersed in the ocean of Divine Mercy and live as ministers of the Lord’s peace and reconciliation.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for those who have died, for members of our families and our friends who have gone before us especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin. May the Risen Lord greet them with love and mercy and grant them the happiness of His kingdom.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray our parish community prayer for Easter:

**All:** God of power and might, by your holy will you raised Jesus from the dead so that we might share his life eternally. As we rejoice and give you thanks for your great goodness and mercy, help us to reach out to those who do not yet believe in the truth of the gospel.

Fill us with your compassion so that we may serve the weak and needy

for love of you.

Strengthen the faith of our families so that we may grow together in love. May your joy grow in us day by day.

**Priest:** God our Father, in Jesus you have shown us your boundless love and infinite mercy. Teach us to love you in return, entrust our lives to your love and mercy, and serve you in our brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.